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SANDY URBAN DISTRICT



ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE

YEAR 1942

OF

Medical Officer of Health

AND

Sanitary Inspector.

SANDY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report on the Public Health and Sanitary Conditions prevailing in your district for the year 1942.

This report has been drawn up in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health's Circular 2314 of 26th March, 1941.

SECTION A.

General Statistics.

Area (Acres) ...	...	...	4,362
Population (1931) Census ...	...	...	3,148
Population (Reg. Gen. Estimate, Mid-year 1942) ...	...	...	3,743
Number of inhabited houses (1942) ...	...	...	1,070
Rateable Value ...	...	...	£14,716
Sum represented by a penny rate ...	...	...	£56 17s. 1d.

Social Conditions.

The chief industry of the district is that of Market Gardening. Farming is also carried on but to a lesser extent.

Unemployment.

There is no trade carried on in your district prejudicial to the health of those employed and the lack of employment has not exercised any adverse influence on the health or physique of the children or adults.

Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

BIRTHS.

		Total.	Males.	Females.
Live Births	Legitimate	62	33	29
	Illegitimate	2	1	1

Giving a birth rate of 17.1 per 1000 of the Resident population.
The corresponding figure for England and Wales being 15.8.

		Total.	Males.	Females.
Still Births	Legitimate	2	0	2
	Illegitimate	0	0	0

Giving a Rate of 30.3 per 1000 births (live and still).

DEATHS.

All causes :—

	Total. 31	Males. 19	Females. 12
Giving a death rate of 8.2 per 1000 of the resident population.			
The corresponding figure for England and Wales is 11.6.			
Deaths from Puerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List). Deaths—Nil. Rates per 1000 total (live and still) births—Nil.			
No. 29. Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	0
No. 30. Other Puerperal causes	...	...	0
		Total	0
Maternal mortality for England and Wales—			
Puerperal Sepsis per 1000 live and still births	...		.42
Others per 1000 live and still births	...		1.59
		Total	2.01

Infantile Mortality

Death rate of infants under one year of age—			
All infants per 1000 live births	...	...	0
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births...			0
Illegitimate „ „ „ illegitimate live births ...			0

Deaths from Special Causes.

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	5
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	0
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	...	...	0

There has been no unusual or excessive mortality during the year. The following table gives the cause of death :—

Deaths from All Causes.

			Males.	Females.
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	...	...	0	0
2. Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	0	0
3. Scarlet Fever	...	...	0	0
4. Whooping Cough	...	...	0	0
5. Diphtheria	...	...	0	0
6. Tuberculosis of respiratory system	...	...	0	0
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	0	0
8. Syphilitic Diseases	...	...	0	0
9. Influenza	...	...	0	0
10. Measles	...	...	0	0
11. Acute polio-myel : and polio-enceph :	...	...	0	0
12. Acute inf : enceph :	...	...	0	1
13. Cancer of b : cav : and œsoph : (M.) uterus (F.)	...	...	0	0
14. Cancer of stomach and Duodenum	...	...	1	0
15. Cancer of breast	...	...	0	0
16. Cancer of all other sites	...	...	3	1
17. Diabetes	...	...	0	0
18. Intra-cran : vasc : lesions	...	...	2	0
19. Heart Disease	...	...	5	1
20. Other diseases of circulatory system	...	...	0	1

						Males.	Females.
21.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	1	3
22.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	0	2
23.	Other Respiratory diseases	...	...	...	...	0	0
24.	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	...	...	...	...	0	0
25.	Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	0	0
26.	Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	0	0
27.	Other digestive diseases	...	...	...	...	0	1
28.	Nephritis	...	...	...	...	1	0
29.	Puerperal and post-abortion sepsis	...	...	...	...	0	0
30.	Other maternal causes	...	...	...	...	0	0
31.	Premature Birth	...	...	...	...	0	0
32.	Congenital malformation birth, inj. : infant : disease	...	...	...	...	0	0
33.	Suicide	...	...	...	...	0	0
34.	Road traffic accident	...	...	...	...	1	0
35.	Other violent causes	...	...	...	...	1	0
36.	All other causes	...	...	...	...	4	2
All causes ...						19	12

SECTION B.

General Provision of Health Services for this Area.

(i.) Public Health Officers of this Authority.

Medical Officer of Health, (Part time)—Dr. W. K. Parbury.
M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. Lond., D.M.R.E. Camb., D.P.H.,
Camb.

Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor—Mr. G. F. Taylor, M.S.I.A.,
A R.S.I.

(ii.) (a.) Laboratory Facilities.

Bacteriological Examinations.

Arrangements are made whereby medical men practising in the district can obtain free Bacteriological Examinations in cases of Diphtheria, Typhoid Fever, Tuberculosis and Meningitis. These examinations are carried out by the Lister Institute, as the Council does not possess the necessary fitted laboratory.

Throat swabs examined for Diphtheria ... 0.

Provisions of Antitoxin.

Medical men practising in this district can obtain a free supply of Diphtheria Antitoxin. It is kept at the Isolation Hospital, Potton Road, Biggleswade, and doctors can obtain it according to their requirements. The earlier this remedy is used in a case of Diphtheria, the greater the chance of recovery.

Wherever there is the least suspicion of Diphtheria, it is wise to inject Antitoxin, and to submit a swab for examination. If the latter should prove to be negative, no harm is done, and should it on the other hand be positive, much valuable time has been saved.

Tetanus Antitoxin is supplied by the County Council, Shire Hall, Bedford. Arrangements have also been made for the supply of Botulinus Antitoxin Serum, which can be obtained on application from the Medical Officer of Health, Guild Hall, Cambridge.

(b). Ambulance Facilities.

For infectious cases Motor Ambulance stationed at Isolation Hospital, and another at the Mogerhanger Sanatorium.
For non-infectious cases...One motor ambulance at the Biggleswade Police Station.

Judging from the experience of previous years, I consider the above arrangements are quite adequate for the needs of the district. There is an understanding among neighbouring Authorities that their ambulances would be available in a case of emergency.

2. Nursing in the Home. (a) General Nursing.

There is a Nursing Association in Sandy which has about 497 subscribers. The Committee has secured the services of Nurse Foster to carry on the work of the Association; she attends Maternity, Minor Medical and Surgical cases. For the year under review the Nurse has paid 1863 visits on Midwifery, Surgical, Medical Ante-Natal and Casual cases, and has attended 14 Midwifery deliveries. The Association is maintained by donations, subscriptions, fees charged to non-subscribers and to maternity cases.

(b). Nursing of Cases of Infectious Disease.

There is an Isolation Hospital which takes in cases of infectious diseases. Your authority does not provide for nursing in the home for such cases.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

Infants Welfare Clinic at the Mission Church, London Road, Sandy.

The Venereal Disease Clinic is held at the Bedford County Hospital, Amptill Road Entrance. The times the Medical Officer attends are : Wednesdays 5-7 p.m. and Fridays 3-5 p.m.

The Tuberculosis Clinic is held at the Masonic Rooms, St. Andrews Street, Biggleswade every Wednesday at 11 a.m.

Hospitals Provided or Subsidised by Local Authorities or by the County Council.

Hospital.	Situation.	Authority	Accommodation
1. Tuberculosis ...	Mogerhanger Park ...	County Council	84 Beds
2. Maternity	St. Andrews Hospital, Biggleswade	County Council	8 Beds
3. Children.....	none		
4. Fever.....	Biggleswade	Jointly with Biggleswade U.D.	22 Beds
5. Smallpox	Biggleswade	Jointly with Biggleswade U.D.	12 Beds
6. Mental	Stotfold	County Council	—
7. Infirmary	St. Andrews Hospital, Biggleswade	County Council	145 Beds

3. Midwives.

One midwife has notified her intention to practise in your district for the year—Nurse FOSTER.

4. Legislation in Force.

ADOPTIVE ACTS, BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS IN FORCE WITHIN THE DISTRICT

Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890.
Private Street Works Act, 1892.
Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, Section 1.

BYE-LAWS OR REGULATIONS ARE IN FORCE RESPECTING :—

New Streets and Buildings.

SECTION C.

Sanitary Administration.

(1.) Water.

RAINFALL.

Month.	Total	Greatest Rainfall in 24 hours		No. of days with .01 or over.	No. of days with .04 or over
		Inches.	Date		
January	1.79	.61	22	13	9
February ...	.45	.26	1	6	2
March	1.01	.49	4	9	8
April	.87	.41	6	9	5
May	2.47	.53	23	13	10
June	.62	.41	14	3	2
July.....	2.47	.62	26	14	11
August	2.01	1.14	25	12	9
September...	1.03	.41	28	13	7
October	2.28	.55	26	11	9
November ...	1.81	.66	5	9	7
December ...	1.48	.27	4	20	14
	18.29			132	93

Average rainfall for England and Wales for 10 years 35.9

Rainfall for England and Wales for 1942 33.1

Average Rainfall for Sandy for 10 years 20.8

The whole of your district is supplied by a public main with the exception of some of the outlying farms and the Potton Road beyond the cemetery. The water is obtained from the Biggleswade Water Board by meter and is of excellent quality. The analysis is as follows :—

Biggleswade Water Board.

The following is the report of the Analysis of this Board's water as made by the County Public Health Laboratories.

Analysis of a sample of water received on June 11th, 1942, from Biggleswade Water Board, labelled Topley's Hill Reservoir, dated June 11th, 1942, 12.30 p.m. Taken by—T. A. Staniforth. Witness—L. Rogers. Signed T. A. Staniforth.

BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS.

No. of Bacteria growing on Agar per cc. or ml. in	1 day at 37°C...	1
"	2 days at 37°C...	2
"	3 days at 20°C...	26
The Bacteria Coli	Present in—	Absent in 100 c.c.
Bacillus Welchii (B. Enteritidis Sporogenes)	Present in—	Absent in 100 c.c.

This sample is reasonably clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and free from metals apart from a negligible trace of iron. The water is hard in character, although not to an excessive degree, contains no excess of saline or mineral matter in solution and is of satisfactory organic and bacterial purity.

These results are consistent with a wholesome water, suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

E. V. SUCKLING.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1942.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my first Annual Report on the Sanitary Conditions and other work carried out during the year.

The work has consisted of maintaining as high a standard of living as it is possible to secure at this time with particular attention to the general services provided by the Council. Evacuation has been a less serious problem but the Fuel Control has brought greatly increased duties. The important work of Salvage has received its proper attention and reduced the work devolving upon the Refuse Collection Contractors.

1. Drainage and Sewage.

The Town is sewered along the Main Streets. The sewer runs from the Station Bridge along High Street, down the St. Neots Road as far as the New Inn. Another sewer runs from Brickhill Road, along Cambridge Road, Northcroft, Bedford Road, and the Great North Road. These sewers meet and the sewage is taken to the Sewerage Works where it is treated. There have been no extensions to the sewers this year.

The engines at the Sewage Works are in good condition, but the pumps are beginning to show signs of wear and there is great difficulty in obtaining replacements owing to the type of pump being now obsolete. The Council have agreed to purchase one new pump of capacity 235 g.p.m. from Messrs. Murlees Watson, and it is hoped that the dismantled pump will provide sufficient spares for the duration. The sludge chain pumps also broke down and the Council obtained a portable 4" diaphragm pump with 3 H.P. Lister engine under the Emergency scheme for dealing with bomb damage to the sewers and this is used to remove sludge, and was worked for 36½ hours. The main engines and pumps worked a daily average of 9 hrs. 1 min. compared with 9 hrs. 27 mins. in 1941. New scum boards were fitted to the humus tank and a great improvement was seen in the final effluent but it was even then not good. The real cause was discovered when a portion of the circulating filter wall collapsed and the medium was found to be clogged with the accumulation of 20 years filtration. Arrangements were in hand at the end of the year to take down and wash the beds.

2. Rivers and Streams.

The Ivel Internal Drainage Board undertake the cleaning of all streams. The Council during the year trimmed over 2 miles of ditches.

3. (i) Closet Accommodation.

There are 901 houses on the water carriage system, 162 earth pails and 7 privies. Where any house is within reasonable distance of the sewer the water carriage system is installed.

(ii) (a) Public Cleansing.

The collection of household refuse, contents of pail closets, and emptying of cesspools is carried out by contract. A fair service has been maintained during the year. The disposal of the refuse is carried out by controlled tipping and particular attention has been given to this system to ensure good packing and covering.

The following is a summary of the work carried out during the year :—

Total number of visits made	...	...	71471
Ashbins emptied	...	...	54600
Privies emptied	...	...	7
Cesspools emptied	...	...	66
Pail Closets emptied	...	...	16798
Loads of Refuse and Night Soil removed	...	...	436

Total Cost £534 15s. 0d.

Average Cost per visit 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ d.

Average Cost per Load removed £1 4s. 6d.

(b) Salvage.

The Council adopted a complete Salvage Steward scheme for the district. 50 Adults and 100 Juvenile Stewards were enrolled and 45 Collection points fixed. With the immediate success of this effort, a motor lorry was purchased and weekly removals have been secured. During the year 156 tons of Salvage was collected at a value of £530, compared with £256 in the previous 12 months. This reflects great credit to the Stewards for their regular and consistent work in their sectors.

(iii) SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Summary of Inspections.

The following Table shows the number of Inspections made during the year for all purposes :

Dwelling Houses inspected under the Housing Acts Regulations	...	...	7
Ordinary inspections of Housing Defects	...	...	51
Sanitary routine inspections	...	...	166
Inspection of New Buildings in course of erection	...	...	50
Inspection of Slaughter Houses and Foodstuffs	...	...	20
Visit and revisits to Council Property relating to reported defects and repairs of same	...	...	826
Inspection of Factories and Workshops including Bakehouses	...	...	35
Inspection of Cowsheds and Dairies	...	...	13
Inspection of Petroleum Stores	...	...	3
Visits re Infectious Disease	...	...	84
Rooms Disinfected	...	...	73
Inspections under Shops Act	...	...	27
Salvage Visits	...	...	910
Visits to Sewage Works	...	...	94
			2359

Notices Served.

42 Intimation Notices or Letters were sent dealing with 58 premises. One Statutory Notice was served, most of the other defects being remedied by verbal notice.

The following list gives the particulars of the defects remedied or work carried out after the attention of the owner or occupier has been called to the same :—

Dwelling Houses.

Roofs and Chimneys repaired	...	...	11
Guttering and Fall Pipes repaired or renewed			7
Floors repaired...	...	...	—
Dampness remedied	...	...	—
Windows repaired or made to open	...	...	4
Improved Lighting	...	..	—
Fire Grates repaired or renewed	...	...	—
Walls and Ceilings repaired	...	...	13
Coppers repaired	...	...	1
Water Pipes and Fittings repaired	...	...	12
Yards re-paved	...	...	1

Drains.

Inspection Chambers and Covers provided	...	2
Drains unstopped or repaired	...	28
Trapped Gullies provided	...	5
Cesspools repaired and new C.P's	...	1
New lengths drains passed	...	10

Closet Accommodation and Ash Receptacles.

New Ashbins provided	...	9
Sanitary Conveniences provided	...	14
Flushing Cisterns provided or repaired	...	12
New E.C. Pails provided	...	7
Existing Sanitary Conveniences repaired	...	—
Insanitary Privies abolished	...	2

Cowsheds and Dairies.

Dairies and Cowsheds cleansed and whitewashed		5
Cowshed floors repaired	...	1
Improved Water Supply	...	—
Other contraventions of the Milk and Dairies		
Order remedied	...	—

Miscellaneous.

Accumulation of Refuse removed, etc.	...	10
Slaughter-houses cleansed and limewashed	...	—
Bakehouses cleansed and limewashed	...	4

The following is a summary of the various defects, &c., which have been dealt with in connection with the Council's houses :—

New coppers supplied and fixed	...	...	12
New dustbins provided	..	...	10
New E.C. pails provided	..	...	13
New W.C. cisterns provided and fixed		...	18
Gas Cookers rep.	...	...	1
Porches	...	...	2
Firebricks for coppers or ranges	...	(sets)	57
New D.P.C. to walls and dampness	...	...	3
Gulley repairs	...	...	15
Door furniture repaired or renewed	...	...	64
Gates re-hung, adjusted or repaired	..	...	61
Doors eased or repaired	...	...	57
Fences repaired	...	...	11
New W.C. pedestals	...	...	9
Chimney pots fixed	...	...	3
Concrete pavements repaired or re-laid		...	15
Stacks repaired	...	...	6
Internal decoration and white liming	...	...	7
Floors re-laid and repaired	...	...	2
Drains unstopped	...	...	28
W.C. overflows adjusted and cisterns repaired	...		71
Water Pipes repaired	...	..	68
Sink and bath wastes repaired	...	...	39
Eaves, gutters and fall pipes cleaned and repaired			30
Internal plastering	...	..	39
Woodwork repaired	...	...	11
Roofs, ridges, etc. repaired	...	...	26
Repairs to draining boards, flap tables, etc.		...	22
Electrical defects repaired	...	...	18
Windows repaired	...	...	41
Tap washers renewed	...	...	120
Soft water tanks repaired	...	...	9
New taps provided	...	...	16
New W.C. seats and repairs	...	...	11
Coppers, repaired	...	...	108
Ranges and registers repaired	...	...	79

Factories and Workshops

There are 41 Factories and Workshops on the Register and 35 visits of inspection have been made.

The following is a list of the premises on the Register :—

Bakers	...	6	Joiners	...	3
Basket Maker	...	1	Millers	...	2
Blacksmith	...	1	Motor Engineers	...	3
Boot Repairers	...	4	Plumbers	...	3
Carpenters	...	2	Printers	...	2
Cinema	...	1	Saddlers	...	2
Clothing	...	1	Stone Mason	...	1
Cycle Repairer	...	2	Tailors	...	2
Gas Works	...	1	Wheelwright	...	2
Electrician	...	1	Wireless Repairer	...	1

All the premises are generally in a satisfactory condition.

3. (iv) Shops and Offices.

Shops Act, 1934.

27 Visits have been made under the above Act and 51 shops have been placed on the Register. 5 have been closed temporarily. In 5 cases of lock-up shops where the accommodation is restricted, the Council have issued Certificates of Exemption in regard to the provision of sanitary conveniences. With reference to Circular 1600 of 1st June, 1937, no action has been found to be necessary.

3. (v) Smoke Abatement.

No action was necessary.

3. (vi) Swimming Baths and Pools.

One public Bathing Pool on the River Ivel. A hut has been erected by the Council with separate dressing accommodation for each sex, together with diving board. The Bathing Huts are provided with sanitary convenience. The site of the bathing place is on a stretch of the river where the banks are clean and the running water appears to be satisfactory.

3. (vii) Eradication of Bed Bugs.

1. (a) Council Houses—1,
1. (b) Other Houses—2.
2. Furniture and houses are sprayed with Zaldicide.
3. By the inspection of the tenants house and his effects.
4. Disinfestation carried out by the Local Authority.
5. Re-inspection and advice given to tenants.

SECTION D. HOUSING.

Town Planning.

The Draft of the Council's Town Planning Scheme under the Town and Country Planning Act, 1932, is awaiting the approval of the Ministry. It was prepared by the Council's consultant, Mr. W. R. Davidge, of London.

Restriction of Ribbon Development, 1935

Proper and suitable arrangements have been made with the Beds. County Surveyor for the carrying out of the necessary requirements of the above Act.

New Buildings.

During the year 13 plans of proposed new buildings were deposited and approved and the following erected :—

Dwelling Houses	...	...	...	...	—
Additions to existing dwelling houses	...	...	...	...	4
Garages	...	...	...	...	4
Cooking Depot.	...	...	...	...	1
Addition to Workshop	...	...	...	...	1
Factory	...	...	...	...	1

HOUSING STATISTICS.

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year.

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	...	23
	(b)	Number of Inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	58
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925.	...	...	...	...	13
	(b)	Number of Inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	28
(3)		Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	NIL
(4)		Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	23

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	...	...	...	...	20
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.

A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

- | | | |
|-----|--|-----|
| (1) | Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | NIL |
| (2) | Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :— | |
| (a) | By owners | NIL |
| (b) | By Local Authority in default of owners | NIL |

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

- | | | |
|-----|---|-----|
| (1) | Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | 1 |
| (2) | Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices : | |
| (a) | By owners | 1 |
| (b) | By Local Authority in default of owners | NIL |

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

- | | | |
|-----|---|-----|
| (1) | Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... | NIL |
| (2) | Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | NIL |

D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

- | | | |
|-----|---|-----|
| (1) | Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made | NIL |
| (2) | Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit | NIL |

4. Housing Act, 1936—Overcrowding.

- | | | |
|--------|---|-----|
| A.—(1) | Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year | 2 |
| (2) | Number of families dwelling therein ... | 3 |
| (3) | Number of persons dwelling therein ... | 14 |
| B.— | Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year | 2 |
| C.—(1) | Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year | NIL |
| (2) | Number of persons concerned in such cases... | NIL |

D.—Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding. NIL

E —Any other particulars with respect of overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report NIL

SECTION E. Inspection and Supervision of Food.

(a.) Milk Supply

8 persons are registered under the Milk and Dairies Order, 1925, 4 are cowkeepers and 2 are purveyors only. Two dairymen residing outside the district retail milk within the district.

17 visits have been paid to the 4 cowsheds in the area, generally during milking time and to the dairies. Tests have been made for sediment with the "Sutherland Thomson" Minit Tester with satisfactory results.

(b) Meat and Other Foods.

There is no public slaughter-house in the district, but some slaughtering is done in emergency on behalf of the Ministry of Food.

The following items have been condemned as unfit for food :—

1 Cow's Liver.	48 lbs. Apples.
46 lbs Bacon.	667 Eggs.
358 lbs Beef.	4—6 lb Tins Meat.
696 lbs Oranges.	3 Sheep in Transit.

Conclusion.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to the Council for their consideration and support extended to me during my first year of office, and to the Clerk of the Council, the Finance Officer and the staff for their loyal co-operation and assistance.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

GEO. F. TAYLOR, M.S.I.A., A.R.S.I.

Sanitary Inspector.

Council Offices, Sandy,

June, 1943.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1942 for the Urban District of Sandy, in the County of Bedford.

On the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, and the Factories Act, 1937 (which superseded the Act of 1901 on 1st July, 1938).

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health. INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections (2)	Written Notices (3)	Occupiers prosecuted (4)
Factories with mechanical power ...	9	—	—
Factories without mechanical power ...	26	—	—
†Other Premises under the Act, including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises			
†Electrical Station should be reckoned as factories. Total ...	35	—	—

DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects			Number of defects in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Want of cleanliness (S. 1)	5	5		
Overcrowding (S. 2)				
Unreasonable Temperature (S. 3) ...				
Inadequate ventilation (S. 4)... ..				
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6) ...				
Sanitary Conveniences { insufficient { unsuitable or defective { not separate for sexes (S .)				
Other Offences				
Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937				
Total	5	5		

SCHOOLS.

There are two schools.

1. St. Neots Road Schools.

Church of England.

Average number on roll	...	106
Average attendances	...	96

2. Laburnum Road Schools.

County Council School. This school was built by the County Council in 1906 and was well planned.

	Mixed	Infants
Average number of Scholars on roll ...	208	104
Average number of attendances ...	183	85

School Closures.

Sandy Council Mixed School, one day, 21.8.42.

„ „ Infants „ „ „
 „ C. of E. Mixed „ from 29.10.42—2.11.42.

These schools were closed for disinfection after cases of Scarlet Fever.

SECTION F.

Prevalence of and Control Over Infectious and Other Diseases.

Arrangements have now been made with other Authorities in Bedfordshire that, in the event of any Isolation Hospital being full, other Isolation Hospitals in the county are prepared, at a fixed charge, to take any infectious disease from the district whose Isolation Hospital is full of any of the diseases which their Isolation Hospital is designed for.

The Biggleswade Isolation Hospital takes cases of Infectious Disease from your district. The following were treated.

On January 1st there were present—

Admissions—	Scarlet Fever	0.	Diphtheria	0.
Discharges—	Scarlet Fever	44.	Diphtheria	0.
On December 31st.	Scarlet Fever	37.	Diphtheria	0.
	Scarlet Fever	7.	Diphtheria	0.

Scarlet Fever.

Fifty-three cases were notified. Forty-four went to Biggleswade Isolation Hospital, four to Clapham Isolation Hospital, four to Steppingly Isolation Hospital; the parents of one case refused to allow their child to go to the Hospital.

No deaths occurred.

Diphtheria.

No case of Diphtheria was reported.

Artificial Immunisation against Diphtheria.

A number of children have been immunised against Diphtheria during the year under review and during previous years.

I give details below; the children are divided into two groups.

1. Children of School Age.
2. Children under School Age.

1. Children of School Age.

Number on School Rolls on Jan. 1st. ...	...	539
" " " " " Dec. 31st. ...	...	480
		59
Number of children immunised on Jan. 1st. ...	...	448
" " " " " during the year ...	...	25
		473
Total of immunised children ...	...	473
Approximate number of immunised children who had left the school during the year, i.e. 70% of 59		41
		432
The number immunised on Dec. 31st. ...	...	432
Percentage of immunised on Jan. 1st. ...	...	83.1
" " " " " Dec. 31st. ...	...	90.1

2. Children under School Age.

Estimated number on Jan. 1st. ...	...	300
" " " " " Dec. 31st. ...	...	281

The number on January 1st is estimated from the returns of births supplied by the Registrar General in addition to a certain undetermined number of Evacuees. The number on Dec. 31st. is taken from the number of Green Ration Books issued. I am now ignoring the former number and am working out my calculations after Jan. 1st, on a smaller number which I think is more accurate.

Number of immunised on Jan. 1st. ...	...	61
" " " " " between Jan. 1st & June 30th. ...	...	21
" " " " " June 30th & Dec. 31st. ...	...	36
		118
Total Number immunised by Dec. 31st. ...	...	118
Percentage of immunised on Jan. 1st. ...	...	21.3
" " " " " June 30th. ...	...	29.1
" " " " " Dec. 31st. ...	...	42.0

I consider the results of the immunisation of children of School Age is very satisfactory but the results of those under school age are not as encouraging and to get at more children in this group I have circularised all parents concerned and have urged them to take their children to their own doctors.

I have also arranged with the doctors in the district to immunise at their surgeries all children at the fee of 2/6 per injection.

There were no cases of Diphtheria in this district during the year.

Pneumonia—No cases notified.

Measles—No cases notified.

Whooping Cough—No cases notified.

Scabies Order, 1941

I have had no enquiries under this order. From the investigation I have made there appears to be very little, if any, cases of Scabies in your district.

Public Health (Small Pox Prevention) Regulations, 1917

No cases occurred.

Notifiable Diseases (Other than Tuberculosis)

	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Pneumonia	Erysipelas
Cases Notified	53	0	0	0
Cases admitted to Hospital	52	0	..	..
Total Deaths	...	...	2	..
Cases under 1 year	...	...	...	...
Deaths under 1 year	...	...	...	...
Cases from 1—2 years	2	...	...	...
Deaths „ „ „	...	...	...	...
Cases from 2—3 years	2	...	...	...
Deaths „ „ „	...	...	...	...
Cases from 3—4 years	1	...	...	...
Deaths „ „ „	...	...	...	...
Cases from 4—5 years	2	...	...	...
Deaths „ „ „	...	...	...	...
Cases 5—10 years	28	...	...	...
Deaths „ „ „	...	...	...	...
Cases from 10—15 years	11	...	...	...
Deaths „ „ „	...	...	...	...
Cases from 15—20 years	2	...	...	...
Deaths „ „ „	...	...	...	...
Cases from 20—35 years	4	...	...	...
Deaths „ „ „	...	...	...	...
Cases from 35—45 years	1	...	...	...
Deaths „ „ „	...	...	...	...
Cases from 45—65 years	...	...	...	...
Deaths „ „ „	...	...	...	...
Cases from 65 and upwards	...	...	...	...
Deaths „ „ „	...	...	2	...

Cancer.

Five deaths occurred—4 males and 1 female. The ages of the 4 males were 83, 73, 84 and 68 and the 1 female 71.

Prevention of Blindness.

Public Health Act, 1936 (sec. 176). This is undertaken by the County Council.

Tuberculosis.

No action was necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or under sec. 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1								
1—5								
5—10								
10—15								
15—20								
20—25								
25—35								
35—45	1*	1*						
45—55								
55—65	1							
65 & upwards								
Total	1 + 1*	1*	0	0	0	0	0	0

*Re-notifications.

In Conclusion.

I should like to express my thanks to Mr. H. A. Usher, Clerk to the Council, and his staff, for the help they have given me, also to your Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Taylor, whose loyal co-operation has been of the greatest assistance.

I have the honour to remain,

Your obedient servant,

WALTER K. PARBURY,

M.R.C.S. Eng , L.R.C.P. Lond., D.P.H. Camb., D.M.R.E. Camb.

Medical Officer of Health.

Sandy, June, 1943.

